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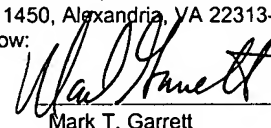
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

February 16, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MS DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
February 16, 2004	
Date	Mark T. Garrett

**MS DD**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: *U.S. Patent Application No. 10/077,618 entitled "DEVICES AND METHODS FOR POSITIONING SUTURES" by Alexander J. Feigl*  
*Our Reference: AFEI:002US*

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent application is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449, and references A17-A21 and C10-C23.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct the appropriate fees from Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No.: 50-1212/AFEI:002US.

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard evidencing receipt of these materials.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark T. Garrett  
Reg. No. 44,699

MTG/kmv  
Encl.: as noted

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:  
Alexander J. Feigl

Serial No.: 10/077,618


Filed: February 15, 2002

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR  
POSITIONING SUTURES

Group Art Unit: 3739

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: AFEI:002US

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Date	Mark T. Garrett

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

MS DD

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g), (h), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

The present Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of a first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits, and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the appropriate fees from Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No.: 50-1212/AFEI:002US.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark T. Garrett  
Reg. No. 44,699  
Attorney for Applicant

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2400  
Austin, Texas 78701  
(512) 474-5201

Date: February 16, 2004

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Form PTO-1449 (modified)

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Atty. Docket No.

AFEI:002US

Serial No.

10/077,618

List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's

Applicant

Alexander J. Feigl

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Filing Date:

February 15, 2002

Group:

3739

(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. Patent Documents

See Page 1

Foreign Patent Documents

See Page 1

Other Art

See Page 1

## U.S. Patent Documents

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date of App.
	A17	5,496,335	3/5/96	Thomason <i>et al.</i>	606	148	8/25/93
	A18	5,507,758	4/16/96	Thomason <i>et al.</i>	606	148	10/19/93
	A19	5,827,299	10/27/98	Thomason <i>et al.</i>	606	148	2/28/96
	A20	5,954,734	9/21/99	Thomason <i>et al.</i>	606	148	9/9/98
	A21	6,183,485	2/6/01	Thomason <i>et al.</i>	606	148	7/26/99

## Foreign Patent Documents

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes/No

## Other Art (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Citation
	C10	Cadeddu <i>et al.</i> , "Advances in laparoscopic instrumentation," <i>Contemporary Urology</i> , 16-24, 1997.
	C11	Carter, "A new technique of fascial closure for laparoscopic incisions," <i>Journal of Laparoendoscopic Surgery</i> , 4(2):143-146, 1994.
	C12	Carter, "Editorial comment on Carter-Thomason subcutaneous tissue closure device for laparoscopic procedure," <i>Minimally Invasive Therapy &amp; Allied Technology</i> , 5:495-497, 1996.
	C13	Elashry <i>et al.</i> , "Comparative clinical study of port-closure techniques following laparoscopic surgery," <i>Journal of the American College of Surgeons</i> , 183(4):335-344, 1996.
	C14	Eltabbakh, "Small bowel obstruction secondary to herniation through a 5-mm laparoscopic trocar site following laparoscopic lymphadenectomy," <i>European Journal of Gynaecological Oncology</i> , 20(4):275-276, 1999.
	C15	Kadar <i>et al.</i> , "Incisional hernias after major laparoscopic gynecological procedures," <i>American Journal of Obstetrics</i> , 168:1493-1495, 1993.

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EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: INITIAL IF REFERENCE CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT — PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)

Form PTO-1449 (modified)

Atty. Docket No.

AFEI:002US

Serial No.

10/077,618

List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant

Alexander J. Feigl

Filing Date:

February 15, 2002

Group:

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U.S. Patent Documents

See Page 1

Foreign Patent Documents

See Page 1

Other Art

See Page 1

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

## Other Art (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Exam. Init.	Ref. Des.	Citation
	C16	Koh, "Editorial Comment on Carter-Thomason subcutaneous tissue closure device for laparoscopic procedure," <i>Minimally Invasive Therapy &amp; Allied Technology</i> , 5:495, 1996.
	C17	Nakada <i>et al.</i> , "Comparison of newer laparoscopic port closure techniques in the porcine model," <i>Journal of Endourology</i> , 9(5):397-401, 1995.
	C18	Nezhat <i>et al.</i> , "Editorial Comment on Carter-Thomason subcutaneous tissue closure device for laparoscopic procedure," <i>Minimally Invasive Therapy &amp; Allied Technology</i> , 5:495, 1996.
	C19	Ortega, "The Carter-Thomason needle suture passer to correct cannula-induced defects and vascular injuries in the abdominal wall during laparoscopy," <i>Journal of the American Association of Gynecological Laparoscopy</i> , 3(4 Supplement):S37, 1996.
	C20	Ortega, "The Pelosi simplified technique to repair inguinal hernias during gynecological laparoscopy," <i>Journal of the American Association of Gynecological Laparoscopy</i> , 3(4 Supplement):S37-S38, 1996.
	C21	Reardon <i>et al.</i> , "Hernia at 5-mm laparoscopic port site presenting as early postoperative small bowel obstruction," <i>Journal of Laparoendoscopic &amp; Advanced Surgical Techniques</i> , 9(6):523-525, 1999.
	C22	Thevissen <i>et al.</i> , "Laparoscopic fasciorrhaphy with the Carter-Thomason instruments," <i>Chirurg</i> , 67:757-759, 1996.
	C23	"Laparoscopic fasciorrhaphy with the Carter-Thomason instruments," Inlet Medical, Inc., <a href="http://www.inletmedical.com/thevissen_closures_pubs.asp">http://www.inletmedical.com/thevissen_closures_pubs.asp</a> , printed February 16, 2004.

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